



16th Special Operations Wing

Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Oct. 5, 2001

Combat control grads finish new training pipeline

by 2nd Lt. Gabe Johnson
AFSOC Public Affairs

Air Force Special Operations Command's newest Combat Controllers graduated from Combat Control School at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., Sept. 26, earning the right to wear the scarlet beret.

Class 01-03 is the first to complete the new training pipeline for Combat Controllers, which now continues after students graduate the school and enter a 12-month Special Tactics Advanced Skills Training program at Hurlburt Field.

The Combat Control School provides training to enlisted and officer Combat Control candidates. It holds four classes a year with an average of 11 trainees per course.

"We started the course with 13 CCT candidates, and graduated 10," said Senior Master Sgt. Bob Rankin, the Combat Control School Commandant. "Some of the candidates were recycled due to physical injuries, while some didn't make it because they didn't meet our stringent requirements. No matter how we organize the pipeline and training, our ultimate responsibility is to ensure those graduating this course know what it takes to meet the demands of being a Combat Controller."

According to Sergeant Rankin, the number of Combat Control candidates is expected to increase as recruiting efforts improve. In fact, he said the January 2002 class is currently projecting 21 students.

Training at the school is divided into blocks of instruction that include tactics, communication, land navigation, assault zone and air traffic control labs, demolitions, fire support and a comprehensive field training exercise.

"There are times when you lose track of what day it is just because you're so



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Guilmain

Second Lt. Jake Miller, 720th Special Tactics Group, completes a 15-mile ruck march as part of his Combat Control School training.

focused and busy during the week," said Senior Airman Patrick Crow, a former Marine and new Air Force Combat Controller.

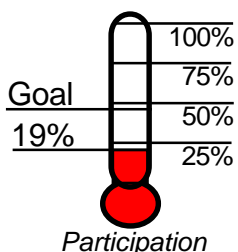
Along with the physical intensity of the training, students must also face personal challenges.

"The most difficult aspect of my training has been learning to trust and rely on the concept of teamwork," said Airman 1st Class Gabriel Rogers. "It's a challenge that [the Combat Control School] has helped me overcome."

For one of the officer candidates, the school offered a personal insight into the role of enlisted Controllers in the Special Operations environment.

See **TRAINING**, Page 3

CFC progress



CFC progress

Contact percent is 48, group participation is 19 percent and total funds raised is \$158,660

Feature



Personal paintball

Fill semi-automatic guns with paint pellets and fire away

Page 10

Sports



Tai Chuan Do

Martial arts teach functional self-defense

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VIEWPOINTS

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. I really appreciate your feedback.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the **COMMANDO**.

I'll answer the others by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you, and perhaps improve their process. However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.



Senior Airman Gregory Sackett, 16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, shows a 7.62 mm minigun to Col. Lyle Koenig, 16th Special Operations Wing commander, Oct. 3.

Military IDs

Comment: The policy for showing military identification at the Autopride when purchasing fuel extends to everyone not in uniform regardless of the form of payment. However, this policy only

seems to apply to the individuals paying at the window. The new pumps accept credit cards and require no form of military ID. Fuel prices are soaring and the Auto Pride is constantly running out of fuel. It's possible that unauthorized customers working on Hurlburt Field are tak-

ing advantage of the slightly lower fuel prices on base by using their credit cards. Why is this allowed?

Response: Thank you for the call and you're exactly right. Customers must show an identification card when purchasing gas at an Army and Air Force Exchange facility in order to verify authorized exchange privileges. As you pointed out, in the case of purchasing gas at the pump with a credit card there's no way for the card reader to verify this without the customer coming up to the window thus defeating the convenience of "pay at the pump." AAFES headquarters is working on a way for the credit card reader to verify exchange privileges. In the meantime, AAFES policy is to allow all customers to purchase gas with a credit card, rather than to inconvenience everyone who deserves this service. I'll also look into the possibility of having spot checks at the pumps by the Auto Pride managers.

We've also researched recurring fuel shortage on base and are currently undertaking a project to add another fuel storage tank which will remedy this problem.

What it really takes to be a leader

by Command Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea
16th Special Operations Wing

The fact that technology affects everything we do today is both good and bad. Today's Air Force is much different than the Air Force I grew up in.

I remember the good old days when you could go into accounting and finance, file a travel voucher and walk out with cold, hard cash. Well, you can't do that anymore. It's called progress. Today, we have electronic funds transfer.

We used to be able to conduct a normal duty day without automation. Today, everything shuts down if the LAN crashes.

Technology is driving us to low-touch, rather than high-touch relationships – we'll email a cubicle four feet away – I'll tell you that's not the way to lead.

We need to get back to face-to-face, high-touch supervisors. If you've ever heard Gen. Jumper speak, you'll know what I'm talking about.

The general says, that when a troop gets in trouble, you need to make it personal. You're initial reaction shouldn't be to reach for that letter of counseling or letter of reprimand. Call them and chew their butts. Tell them you're disappointed and show them how to do better. Making it personal – that's high touch.

We all know that it's not the great sums of money that keep people in the military. It's neither the brown leather jackets nor the bonuses. What keeps people in the military is the little things we do for them and truly being an Air Force family.

Years ago I supervised a young airman who was a single parent who was trying to get back together with his ex-wife. I knew they were both struggling to make ends meet, so I submitted his name for Operation Warmheart.

When he got approved, I called him in and said, 'Airman, here's a check for \$72 from Operation Warmheart. It's not much, but it'll help.'

He immediately started crying and explained that he had asked his ex-wife to marry him, but he hadn't had the funds for the license until that moment.



Command Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea

supervisor. The year was 1978, the location was Cheyenne, Wyo., and his name was Master Sgt. Wallace Hoem. What a great guy. He was high-touch, and believe me, he was always in my stuff! He used to moonlight at the auto hobby shop, and I had an old 1971 Pontiac LeMans that always needed something fixed. Sergeant Hoem took me under his wing and taught me about wearing the blue and fixing cars. It was the little things he did for me that helped shape my future.

My point here is that good leaders recognize that it takes personal involvement to positively influence subordinates, because no matter how sophisticated the technology or how shiny the equipment, it's people-to-people relations that get things done. And today, more than ever, we need to have strong solid military relationships so we can focus on the task at hand, go forward to represent the American people and return safely.

Take care of your troops and their families, for that's the ultimate mark of leadership.

(Editor's note: This article was transcribed from Chief Alicea's speech to the Airman Leadership School class graduates Sept. 26.)

That check was going to make them a family again. It's the little things you do for people.

I had another superb airman who loved to go bass fishing. When I saw a services ad announcing a bass fishing contest lasting about seven days, I signed him up and the commander approved a permissive TDY for him to go. He was delighted when we told him about it.

It's the little things we do for people. And, folks, I didn't learn this recently.

I can remember my first supervisor. The year was 1978, the location was Cheyenne, Wyo., and his name was Master Sgt. Wallace Hoem. What a great guy. He was high-touch, and believe me, he was always in my stuff! He used to moonlight at the auto hobby shop, and I had an old 1971 Pontiac LeMans that always needed something fixed. Sergeant Hoem took me under his wing and taught me about wearing the blue and fixing cars. It was the little things he did for me that helped shape my future.



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Submitting articles

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News

New cart quickens fuel transfer

by Staff Sgt. David Byron
Public Affairs

The 16th Special Operations Wing and a safety team from Air Force Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, conducted a Systems Safety Engineering Analysis Sept. 18 on a new piece of equipment designed to improve aircraft fuel transfers in field conditions.

A new Forward Area Manifold cart was certified for use in the test conducted at Duke Field, Fla. It was designed to replace equipment currently in use supporting Forward Area Refueling Point operations.

"The test was successful with only one hiccup," said Capt. David Sanford, 16th Supply Squadron, Combat Operations Support Flight commander. "We had a minor fuel leak, but it was corrected on the spot."

FARP missions involve transferring fuel from a tanker aircraft to Special Operations helicopters. The transfer is conducted covertly in remote field conditions allowing Air

Force Special Operations Forces unrestricted range to perform their missions.

An Air Force Special Operations Command study found the current equipment is unable to adequately support today's missions. It's based on outdated technologies that have degraded over time.

The older equipment is limited by the number of aircraft it can refuel, low fuel transfer rates, time-consuming assembly and disassembly times and long delays in parts resupply.

The new FAM cart, designed by the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson, allows for simultaneous refueling of three aircraft. It increases the transfer rate more than 300 percent – transferring 300 gallons per minute versus the former 80 gallons per minute. The faster transfer rate cuts down refueling time for an MH-53 Pave Low helicopter from 57 minutes to 13.

Disassembly time for the older equipment could take as long as 35 minutes. The new



Courtesy photo

Special Operators test a new Forward Area Manifold cart for certification at Duke Field Sept. 18.

FAM can be taken apart in 15 minutes. Hoses, the part most frequently replaced, are less expensive and can be obtained quicker for the new cart. The new hoses last twice as long as the old and cost 22 percent less. Ordering time for the new hoses run two weeks, while the older hoses take anywhere from six months to a year to acquire.

The cost for the new cart itself represents significant saving for the Air Force.

Captain Sanford said the old system cost nearly \$235,000 compared to the cost

of the new cart at \$140,000. The unit tested and certified is the only new FAM cart in the Air Force inventory.

"Now that it's been approved for operational use, we hope to use end-of-year funds to order more carts," said the captain. "We plan to eventually have 10 carts in service."

Though increased savings and shorter ordering times are good, the end result of the improved capabilities of the new FAM cart is the decreased amount of time aircraft and people spend on the ground in hostile locations.

TRAINING, Continued from Page 1

"Leading our enlisted troops in a team environment is demanding," said 1st Lt. Mason Dula. "In Special Tactics, our airmen operate – often independently – in austere environments, liaising with senior

officers as the primary voice for airpower on the forward battlefield. They're smart, motivated and tough. Keeping up with them is a challenge."

Once trainees graduate and don the Controller beret, they head to Hurlburt Field to begin AST. For the next 12 months, they train to earn a 5-skill level, and their mission-readiness certification. The training focuses on skills and mentorship coaching in Special Operations.

"I'm excited about training at Hurlburt Field," said Lieutenant Dula. "It's an unparalleled opportunity for training, and exactly what the Special Tactics community needs – a program to develop mission-ready airmen, delivering a competent warrior to a unit and hopefully decreasing on-station training burdens."

According to Senior Master Sgt. Harvey Perriott, 720th Special Tactics Group, chief of training, some key benefits of the new training



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Guilmain

Airman Jared Hunt finds cover behind a tree while learning fundamental tactics during a patrol exercise.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Guilmain
Airman 1st Class Joseph Culbertson climbs up a ladder during an infiltration-extraction exercise, part of the school's tactics block.

pipeline and AST are the distinction between basic and advanced qualifications and the increased focus on mentoring and coaching the trainees.

"These elements have proven to be extremely successful for our SOF counterparts and will improve critical leadership skills for every trainee," he said.

Spotlight on ...



John Mahan

Name: John Mahan

Rank/Duty Title: Senior Airman/Aerospace ground equipment journeyman

Organization: 16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Hometown: Alloway, N.J.

Hobbies: Honor guard, running, basketball and computers

Contribution to the mission: This top performer is depended upon daily to help maintain more than 700 pieces of aerospace ground equipment to support special operations aircraft missions.

He performs complex troubleshooting and repairs by utilizing diagrams and technical instructions. Implements applicable directives pertaining to environmentally approved maintenance practices and evaluates personnel qualifications and quality of maintenance performed through inspection and observation. His technical knowledge and dedication to duty aided his team in achieving an outstanding 96 percent equipment in-commission rate and earned him the 16th EMS Airman of the Year. Additionally, he's a valuable member of the base honor guard with more than 78 taskings.

(Editor's Note: The COMMANDO highlights airmen, junior NCOs, company grade officers, Department of Defense civilians and volunteers in units who do a great job, but who may not receive much recognition day-to-day. Supervisors can call the 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office at 884-7464 for more information on nominating an individual for the "Spotlight on..." column.)

AIR FORCE NEWS

Major to be legislative fellow

by 1st Lt. Jeffrey Roberts
AFSOC Public Affairs

An Air Force major will soon trade his flight suit for a business suit as the first special operator selected for the Air Force Legislative Fellows Program.

Maj. Ted Fordyce, a navigator instructor and fire control officer here, who's the chief of fixed wing flight safety for Air Force Special Operations Command, will join other selected officers from throughout the Air Force to begin a year-long congressional fellowship program in Washington.

The establishment of this dedicated position for an Air Force special operator was initiated by Air University and approved by the Air Force chief of staff. The Air Force recognizes that U. S. Special Operations Command has a unique requirement among unified commands for officers with an understanding of the legislative process.

"Because Congress appropriates funds for special operations unique equipment and exercises close oversight of other special operations programs, U.S. SOCOM needs a small reservoir of officers who understand the legislative process and can effectively assist the command in keeping Congress informed," said Army Brig. Gen. Kenneth Bergquist, Joint Special Operations University president.

With the Air Force's assistance, USSOCOM will soon have the officers with the congressional knowledge and expertise to better keep the Congress informed and to act as a liaison between the Congress and the command.

The Air Force Legislative Fellows

See **FELLOW**, Page 5

Relief act protects servicemembers

Helps active-duty people protect rights, handle financial, legal obligations

WASHINGTON – For people in the U.S. armed forces, there's no greater responsibility than providing the nation's defense. It takes precedence over all other obligations.

That fact, coupled with ongoing operations in support of President Bush's campaign against terrorism, has led Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld to institute the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, effective since Sept. 24.

Enacted by Congress in 1940, the act is designed to protect military people from certain legal obligations while providing the nation's defense.

The act provides assistance to members during legal proceedings and with meeting financial obligations. Military service often hampers peoples' ability to protect their rights, said Maj. William Youngblood, reserve judge advocate, Air Force legal assistance division at the Pentagon.

"The purpose of the SSCRA is to strengthen the defense of the United States by suspending enforcement of some civil liabilities so servicemembers can devote their entire attention to defense," he said. "It's beneficial for every servicemember to be aware of the law's general provision so they'll know when they are involved in a situation and may be protected."

Major Youngblood said the law applies only to full-time active-duty people, including the activated reserve component. It provides five types of protection for financial obligations. They are:

- Postponing collection actions on any civil obligation;
- Prohibiting repossessions and foreclosures without court permission;
- Setting a maximum interest rate of 6 percent on all pre-service obligations;
- Allowing servicemembers to terminate leases with 30 days prior notice

○ Permitting the Veterans Affairs to guarantee life insurance premiums in order to continue coverage

"Creditors don't have an affirmative duty to find out whether SSCRA might apply when a loan or other obligation is not repaid in a timely matter,"

Major Youngblood said. "In order to take advantage of these protections, the servicemember must advise the court or creditor that SSCRA protections are sought. It's also important to remember that none of these protections apply if the obligation is incurred after entering active duty."

However, the relief act provides additional protection for obligations arising both before and after entering active duty.

These include the postponement of legal actions until such time as the service member is able to return and adequately protect his or her interests. To obtain this protection, the court must be advised of the active-duty commitment and find the service member's participation has been materially affected. Major Youngblood said it's best to contact a legal assistance attorney before asking a court to stay in a proceeding of this nature.

The act also prohibits courts from entering default judgments against active duty servicemembers unless the party filing the action follows specific guidelines set forth in the statute.

Major Youngblood said landlords with military tenants also have restrictions. A service member who enters a lease for less than \$1,200 a month cannot be evicted for

"It's beneficial for every servicemember to be aware of the law's general provision so they'll know when they are involved in a situation and may be protected."

– Maj. William Youngblood

reserve judge advocate,
Air Force legal assistance division

up to three months without a court order.

Other protections include:

○ The relief act extends the time when a service member may file suit or have suit filed against them by eliminating the time served on active duty. Youngblood said because legal actions are filled with pitfalls, it's best to speak with an attorney before allowing any period of limitation to expire.

○ Active-duty people cannot be taxed other than by their state of domicile. This prohibits multiple states from taxing people.

○ Powers of attorney are extended for military people missing in action.

○ Health insurance companies are required to reinstate any coverage in effect the day prior to active duty that was terminated during military service for both the person and their family.

Major Youngblood said it's important for people to know that creditors and insurance companies cannot initiate adverse credit ratings, deny credit or take any adverse financial action based solely on the fact that a military person invoked the protections of SSCRA.

For more information, contact the 16th Special Operations Wing Judge Advocate office at 884-7821.

Look who's talking: What's the worst thing you did growing up that got you grounded?



"I took the lumber my father had purchased for a deck, and engineered an elaborate car rack so you could stand underneath and change the oil, ect. That got me more than grounded."

Maj. Frederick Williams
Air Force Combat Weather Center



"My parents said I used my imagination to tell stories in my favor, not exactly the way they occurred."

Master Sgt. Stan Holder
16th Logistics Group



"In my senior year I took my dad's brand new Ford truck out and wrecked it."

Staff Sgt. Dawn Moskett
25th Information Operations Squadron

54 Hurlburt Field captains make major

The following Hurlburt Field captains have been selected for promotion to the rank of major:

**Air Force Special
Operations Command**

Jon Duncan, Alan Fiorello, Michael Goodin, Scott Jackson, Tara Morrison, Matthew Powell, Clark Risner, Aaron Smith, Lisa Ulshoffer and John Werner

**16th Special
Operations Wing**

Shari Silverman, Joseph Mull, Scott Wilson and Bryan Vanbrunt

**16th Component Repair
Squadron**

Eric North

**16th Maintenance
Squadron**

Patrick Butler

**16th Medical Support
Squadron**

Melissa Howard

**16th Medical Operations
Squadron**

Thomas Barbera

16th Operations Group

Kevin Cabanas

**4th Special Operations
Squadron**

Harry Clawson and William Holt

**8th Special Operations
Squadron**

Michael Beck, Casey Britain, Michael Doyle, Christopher Hemmer and Charles Tomko

**9th Special Operations
Squadron**

Franklin Baker

**15th Special Operations
Squadron**

Tony Bauernfeind, Kevin Camilli, Steven Coppa, Gregory Fritz, Timothy Hornyak and Carroll Staley

**16th Operations Support
Squadron**

George Elder and Michael Sowa

**19th Special Operations
Squadron**

Philip Rowlette

**20th Special Operations
Squadron**

Brian Bell, Robert Brock, Mark Daley, Michael Galluzzo and Douglas McMahon

**Air Force Special
Operations School**

John Downey and Stephen Murray

18th Flight Test Squadron

Dana Allen

**23rd Special
Tactics Squadron**

Kurt Buller

**720th Special
Tactics Group**

Gregg Easterbrook and James Johnson

**Command and Control
Warrior School**

Alexander Miller and Dennis Tucker

505th Operations Squadron

Glenn Wagner

605 Test Squadron

Kelly Catchings

**Air Force Testing and
Evaluation Center**

Thomas Houle

16th Operations Group

Kelly Passmore and Herbert Smith

FELLOW, *Continued from Page 4*

Program begins in November each year and ends the following October putting officers with one of the 535 people in Congress, specific congressional committees, or allied agencies as well as receiving seminars throughout the year. This year-long immersion program provides fellowship participants with an in-depth understanding of the inner working of the Congress and supporting institutions.

“We’re really excited about living in the D.C. area,” said Major Fordyce. “To be in our country’s nerve center with all its culture and national significance will be a tremendous experience for me and my family.”

“This experience for Major

Fordyce is two fold,” Bergquist said. “He’ll gain the legislative experience necessary for his follow-on assignment as well as achieve completion of Air Command and Staff College in seminar with his fellowship peers during off-duty hours.”

Selection for the Air Force Legislative Fellows Program is highly competitive. Officers chosen must already have been selected for resident Intermediate Service School and are likely the best qualified 19 majors from the Air Force in their competitive year group.

To make the most of his fellowship experience, Major Fordyce’s follow-on assignment will most likely involve considerable legislative liaison responsibility either at USSOCOM or AFSOC headquarters.

Columbus Day hours

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Hours</i>
Base exchange	11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Autopride shoppette	24 hours
Mini mall	Closed
Commissary	Closed
Burger King	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
BX barber*	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Outdoor Recreation Center	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Marina	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Information, Tickets and Travel	Closed
Skills center	Closed
Main fitness center	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Commando fitness center	Closed
Library	Closed
Oasis Café	Closed
Reef	6 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4 to 6:30 p.m.
Community Activities Center	Closed
Velocity Subs	Closed
Child development center	Closed
Youth Center	Closed
Teen Center	Closed
Hooches	Closed
J.R. Rockers	5 to 9 p.m.
Soundside	Closed
Bowling center	Noon to 10 p.m.
Golf course	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
*All other BX concessions closed	

Special OPERATORS

The following Senior Airmen graduated from Airman Leadership School class 01-G, Sept. 26.

Award winners

Command and Control Training and Innovation Group
Jacqueline Jackson – John Levitow Award and Academic Achievement Award

334th Training Squadron
Michael Nishimoto – Leadership Award and Distinguished Graduate

16th Helicopter Generation Squadron
Charles Forrest – Distinguished Graduate

16th Supply Squadron
James Albanesi

Graduates
Air Force Special Operations Command
Karen Cloyd and Doriann Toothman

C2TIG
Jacqueline Jackson
4th Special Operations Squadron
Donald Gransee
16th Aircraft Generation Squadron
Shana Dawson, William Kaval , Guy Morse and Andrew Nennig

16th Civil Engineer Squadron
Kibwe George and Christopher Gerwick
16th Communication Squadron
Mark Abraham, Timothy Bagwell, Tonya Bates, Michael Malone, Bruce Posey and Randolph Senkle

16th Component Repair Squadron
Alan Jackson and Jamie Price
16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Eduardo Welch
16th HGS

Charles Forrest
16th Medical Operation Squadron
Freda Henderson
16th Mission Support Squadron
Terry Barnes and Anna Horne
16th Security Forces Squadron
Kendra Drisdorn and Keith Weinckowski
16th Transportation Squadron
Stanley Walker
16th Sups
James Albanesi, Marcel Brown, David Dickens, Colin Heurter, Joseph James and Jason McNally
18th Flight Test Squadron
Christina Sullivan
23rd Special Tactics Squadron
Michael Paulson
39th Information Operation Squadron
John Billings
56th Rescue Squadron
William Willis
334th TRS
Michael Nishimoto
823rd RED HORSE Squadron
Darrell Moises and Alexander Roebuck





Duke Field reservist donates bone marrow, could save life

by Sandie Henry
919th SOW Public Affairs

DUKE FIELD, Fla. — An attempt three years ago to save the life of a young girl resulted in another life-saving endeavor this August.

Master Sgt. Dennis Geiberger, an Air Force reservist here, donated his bone marrow to a 35-year-old man suffering from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a form of cancer where cells in the lymphatic system become abnormal.

Sergeant Geiberger, a loadmaster with the 711th Special Operations Squadron, saw a sign in April 1998 on the Duke Field marquee announcing a bone marrow donor drive.

A 6-year-old girl, Kaylee Robinson, of nearby Crestview, Fla., was suffering from leukemia. Susan Gordon, a friend of the family and wife of person in the 919th Special Operations Wing, organized the drive hoping to find a donor for Kaylee.

Since the first drive here in 1997, three people from the Air Force Reserve Command unit have donated bone marrow so others might live.

After he returned from a 21-day deployment to Kuwait this June, Sergeant Geiberger checked his mail at home and found a letter from the C.W. Bill Young, Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program, identifying him as a possible match for a bone marrow transplant.

The Bill Young Marrow Donor Center in Kensington, Md., coordinates medical and logistic support for Department of Defense people who volunteer to donate marrow.

Following in-depth questioning during a telephone interview with program people, he agreed to proceed.

Sergeant Geiberger has a personal reason for wanting to donate.

"My mother died of cancer when she was 57," he said. "Also, the wife of another loadmaster I know was dying of cancer."

A resident of Pensacola, Fla., he first went to Pensacola Naval Air Station to have nine vials of blood drawn. Four weeks later he received a call from Christian Scheps, a program coordinator

and employee of Georgetown University in Washington, telling him he was the best possible match.

After ensuring Sergeant Geiberger still wanted to participate, Mr. Scheps proceeded with blood sampling instructions and arranged for five more vials to be drawn while Sergeant Geiberger was on a seven-day trip to Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., where his squadron was working with the U.S. Air Force Pararescue School.

Next, Sergeant Geiberger needed to give blood to check for infectious diseases. At that time, Scheps told him about the recipient — the marrow transplant was a "last resort," and the man had a 30 to 50 percent chance of survival after the transplant.

Mr. Scheps arranged for the sergeant to travel to Fairfax Medical Center in Virginia, where he met the doctor and received a thorough examination. He also underwent an autolog — the drawing of blood before surgery for replacement later. He had another autolog done a few days later in Pensacola.

Mr. Scheps encouraged Sergeant Geiberger to take someone for support during the procedure, scheduled for Aug. 7 at the Fairfax Medical Center. The sergeant chose his sister, Rita Ellis.

A homebound mother, Ms. Ellis accepted the invitation and made arrangements for someone to look after her disabled son while she accompanied her brother.

Sergeant Geiberger and Ms. Ellis arrived in Fairfax Aug. 6.

"Everything was set up for us," Sergeant Geiberger said. "Taxis, hotel, and a personal escort made sure we got everywhere we had to go." The process also included the taking of seven more vials of blood.

"If I knew how many blood draws there would be and how often, I might have had second thoughts," Sergeant Geiberger said jokingly.

He remembers that by 7 a.m. he had IVs in both arms, had received what they called "happy shots," and had about five people standing over him as they wheeled him into the operating



**Master Sgt.
Dennis Geiberger**

room to extract the bone marrow from the back of his pelvic bone.

The medical people had taken four bags of marrow from him, the limit (1,500 milliliters). The doctor told Ms. Ellis that because they'd received so much marrow, the recipient had better than an excellent chance of survival and that they expected to know within two to three weeks if the transplant was successful.

Sergeant Geiberger woke up about 10:15 a.m. feeling "groggy but good."

"For several hours I felt like I slipped and fell on my backside, but I was up and walking by three [p.m.]," he said.

The donated marrow, which had 24 hours to get to the transplant destination, was already well on its way. The hospital released Sergeant Geiberger the following day, and he and his sister toured Washington by foot.

"We walked about seven or eight miles," Ms. Ellis said. "Dennis just took some Tylenol."

It takes about two to six weeks to recover, and the sergeant's blood will be checked again during that time. Scheps agreed that a lot of blood is needed, but the requirements are driven by the organization of the recipient.

"Dennis was very upbeat and easy to work with the entire time," Mr. Scheps said.

Sergeant Geiberger may request a progress report about the marrow recipient after 30 days and several more times the first year. The man's name will remain anonymous for one year, but letters may be exchanged with him or family members through the donor program.

To learn more about the Bill Young Marrow Donor Center, call the center at (800) 627-7693 or go to the center's Web site at www.dodmarrow.com.

FEATURE



Photos by Airman 1st Class Sam Taylor

PAINTBALL

BRAWL

For the ultimate team-bonding experience, Hurlburt Field units or groups can now reserve the base paintball field for a private afternoon's use.

The Tactical Air Control Party instructors from Detachment 1, 334th Training Squadron, were among the first to take advantage of this service, and had the near eight-acre field to themselves Sept. 21. The field was taken over courtesy of the instructors' commander, Maj. Greg Lynd, who made reservations and bought the first box of ammunition.

"It's like an instructor get-together," said the major. "It's a great way to blow off a little steam."

Reservations need to be made at least seven days in advance, and the number of players must be at least 20 to receive the group discount. Custom semi-automatic guns and masks are furnished, and the maximum number of players is 40.

For more information or to reserve the field, call Chuck Lowery or John Jones at 884-4097.

(left) Staff Sgt. Brian Hellard, Falcon Flight instructor, blends into a tree as he takes aim. (bottom left) Staff Sgt. Kenneth Ladd, Falcon Flight instructor, fills his fellow instructor's paintball magazine. (below) Red team members charge north as the battle begins.



Military, civilians receive recognition

WASHINGTON—Military and civilian people killed or injured in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks will be recognized for their sacrifice, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Sept. 27.

Service members will receive the traditional Purple Heart, and civilian employees will receive the new Defense of Freedom Medal.

Secretary Rumsfeld said the civilians killed or wounded in the attack were "combat casualties - brave men and women who risked their lives to safeguard our freedom, and they paid for our liberty with their lives." Officials said about 90 civilian employees qualify for the new medal.

"The establishment of this decoration is a fitting honor and a tribute to the extraordinary dedication and service of the department's civilian workforce," Secretary Rumsfeld said.

Prerequisites for award of the

civilian medal are the same as for the military Purple Heart. The recipient must have been killed or wounded as a result of hostile actions. The secretary also has the discretion to award the medal to non-Department of Defense civilians, such as contractors killed in the attack. DOD civilians killed or wounded at the Pentagon, the World Trade Center or aboard any of the hijacked flights are eligible for the Defense of Freedom Medal.

The new medal is a golden medallion suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. The front shows an eagle, and shield and the words "Defense of Freedom," while the back has a laurel wreath and the words "On Behalf of a Grateful Nation."

The Army's Institute of Heraldry at Fort Belvoir, Va., designed the medal. The first should be available for distribution in early November.

The Purple Heart and the Defense of Freedom medals are awarded to those killed or wounded in combat.

"For most of our history, combat has been something that has mostly taken place on foreign soil," Secretary Rumsfeld said. "These strikes were the first on American soil since World War II and the first attack on our capital by a foreign enemy since the War of 1812." He said the Sept. 11 attacks brought the battlefield home.

"The medal is also a recognition that the world has changed and we can no longer be certain of future wars being waged safely in their regions of origin," he said.

"I have every confidence that our armed forces and the dedicated men and women of the Department of Defense are ready to meet the challenges ahead." (AFPN)



Officials ban uniforms on commercial aircraft

WASHINGTON—Air Force people are no longer authorized to wear their uniforms when traveling aboard commercial aircraft, Air Force officials said.

The uniform prohibition, approved by Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, Sept. 21, is directly related to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

"The bottom line is force protection," said Lt. Col. Bruce Lovely, chief of Air Force quality of life and uniform activities. "Due to our concern for force protection, we want to make our folks less visible on commercial aircraft."

The policy ends the June 2000 recommendation that colonels and above, and chief master sergeants, wear their uniforms when traveling on official orders within the United States. (AFPN)



Family member SGLI coverage is automatic

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Married airmen who carry any amount of military life insurance will see a change in the amount deducted from their November pay as their spouses are automatically enrolled in the Servicemans' Group Life Insurance benefit Nov. 1.

Each child of a military member enrolled in the SGLI program will be automatically covered for \$10,000 of life insurance free of charge. These changes were brought about by legislation that was signed into law June 5.

"This is a great deal for Air Force people — especially the free insurance for children," said Maj. Jerry Couvillion, chief of the casualty services branch at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB. "I don't know of any better deal out there."

Participation in the SGLI program for spouses is voluntary, but initial enrollment is automatic.

Military members deciding they don't want coverage for their spouses will have to disenroll them to reverse the automatic registration, officials said.

The spouse coverage comes in \$10,000 increments and can't exceed the amount of coverage the military member carries, up to \$100,000.

"If the military member is covered for \$100,000 or more, their spouse is automatically enrolled for \$100,000," the major said. "On the other hand, if a member is only covered for \$90,000, then the maximum amount the spouse can be covered for is \$90,000."

Military members can carry up to \$250,000 of SGLI coverage for themselves.

Coverage for children is also automatic starting Nov. 1, but it's free.

"If the military member holds any amount of SGLI, then their children are automatically enrolled for \$10,000," he said. Military people who hold SGLI coverage for themselves wouldn't be able to disenroll their children from the program.

The SGLI program doesn't make the distinction between spouses who're military members themselves and those who aren't. Thus, military members married to military members will also be automatically enrolled Nov. 1.

"The same rules in terms of coverage and disenrollment ap-

ply to military couples," Major Couvillion said. "Essentially, each spouse receives a separate policy with their spouse as the beneficiary. They're not being covered twice under the same policy."

Although coverage for children is automatic, children from dual military families won't receive coverage from both parents. They'll receive coverage under the person who claims them through the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

A military participant can de-

cline spouse enrollment or reduce the coverage amount by visiting the military personnel flight.

"Making a change is as simple as filling out the right form," said Major Couvillion, "which the MPFs will have in hand today."

In order not to see any increase in premiums, people must disenroll their spouse no later than close of business Oct. 31. Canceling or reducing coverage after then will take effect the first day of the following month.

"Essentially, if someone

changes the coverage for their spouse Nov. 2, that change will not happen until Dec. 1," said the major. "And the same holds true for any month thereafter."

People not enrolled in the SGLI program still have time to take advantage of the added benefits.

"Anyone wanting to enroll can do so at any time," he said. "And when they enroll, their spouse and children are automatically going to be enrolled as well."

The military person paying the premium for his or her spouse

will automatically become the beneficiary under the family member SGLI program.

It's similar for children — the parent who claims them under Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System will be named the beneficiary.

"Under this new program, there are no beneficiary designations," said Major Couvillion. "It's intent is to provide extra financial security, and that's exactly what it does — with minimum cost to the member." (AFPN)

LIFESTYLE

Military

Munch and mend

The Hurlburt Field Chapel presents Munch and Mend Monday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the base chapel. Senior airmen and below can enjoy a free meal while having minor repairs done on one article of clean clothing or having stripes, patches, or name tags sewn on. For more information, call Bill White at 884-7371 or Jimmie Thomas at 881-3344.

Turn-in service

The 16th Supply Squadron has limited turn-in service to equipment and non-expendable items only. Service of unserviceable expendable items such as furniture, scrap metal and appliances are suspended until further notice. Customers can either make their own appointment with the Defense Reutilization Management Office at Eglin Air Force Base or hold on to the property until supply resumes service. For questions or more information, call Staff Sgt. Christopher Turner at 884-7440.

Travel voucher

Effective Oct. 31, travel voucher claims for all military members will require a supervisor signature before the member is reimbursed. This requirement is mandatory for all temporary duty and permanent change of station settlements for military. Travel vouchers submitted after Oct. 31 without proper signatures will be sent back to the member and will cause a delay in reimbursement. For more information or questions, call the travel section at 884-4061.

Stop Loss

The Veteran's Administration is taking VA claims for the Stop Loss and Veteran's Pre-Separation Examination Programs based on a person's original discharge date. New discharge dates will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For questions, call the Transition Assistance Program office at 884-6281.

Executive leaders

The Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program begins September 2002. The program is designed specifically for highly motivated people who've demonstrated outstanding leadership ability, commitment to public service, integrity, and have an interest in moving into senior management positions. To be eligible for the program, an officer must be in the rank of major, completed Squadron Officer School and Air Command and Staff College, either in residence, correspondence or seminar.

The intent of ELDP is to provide a new approach to the training of civilian employees, which in part parallel certain aspects of selected military training. Military participants in the course will remain in their current position during the program, with the exception of 50 to 55 days throughout the year.

Anyone interested can apply through the Air Force Personnel Center/DPAPE by Feb. 25, 2002. For more information, call the military personnel flight, customer service office at 884-5251.

Red cross

The American Red Cross needs volunteers to help at the information desk along with other positions at medical clinics. For more information, call the ARC office at 884-6107 or 6246.

Readiness tips

The Family Support Center has the following services available for spouses separated longer than 30 days: Heart's apart morale calls, video phone, e-mail, give parents a break, car care because we care. For more information, call FSC at 884-5441.

Hispanic heritage month

The Hispanic heritage committee hosts the annual Gala Banquet Oct. 13 at The Soundside Club. There'll be entertainment by two live latino bands, cultural dancers and authentic hispanic cuisine. Social hour starts at 6 p.m. and the dress is formal attire. For tickets, call Chief Master Sgt. Carlos Felix at 884-4671, Master Sgt. Moses Perez at 884-4671, Master Sgt. William Vargas at 881-9300, Tech. Sgt. Marcus Reedem at 884-6090, Staff Sgt. Claudia Castillo at 884-4123 or Senior Airman Anita Gilbert at 884-8332.

Reporting information

The Federal Bureau of Investigations has established a toll-free number for anyone with information regarding the incidents Sept. 11 in New York City and Washington D.C. If you wish to report information to the FBI call (866) 483-5137 or to report information to local authorities, call the Air Force Office of Special Investigations at 884-6102.

Extended duty care

The fees for all parents who use the extended duty care program in support of the military mission are suspended. Parents are required to sign a statement validating there's no one else available in the home who can provide care during the extended hours.

Red Ribbon Essay, poster contest

The essay contest is for students in grades 4th, 5th and 6th and the essay must be between 50 and 100 words. The title of the essay should be, "Why I don't use drugs." Entries should be turned in to the base library by Oct. 23. The youth center is sponsoring a poster contest for kindergarten and first grade students. The title of the poster should be, "Why drugs are bad for you." Entries should be turned in to the youth center by Oct. 20. For more details about the poster contest, call the youth center at 884-3766. For more information about the essay contest, call the base library at 884-6947.

Spouses' club

The Hurlburt Field Officers' Spouses' Club holds a luncheon Oct. 16, at 10:30 a.m. at The Soundside Club. The guest speaker is Ben Hill, director of the community character project of Escambia County, Ala. Lunch includes split ham and pea soup, chicken broccoli crepes, honey glazed carrots and chocolate mousse for dessert. Salad option is Hawaiian chicken salad with Macadamia nuts and fresh fruit. The cost is \$10. For reservations, call Pat Rogers at 678-9375 or Danielle Wolf at 916-0963.



Hurlburt Field Chapel (884-7795)

Catholic Masses

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:30 and 10 a.m.
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request.

Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
Protestant Services
Sunday, 8:45 a.m. (praise & worship),

11:15 a.m. (traditional),
Youth and Bible Group (optional)

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel 1

Havdallah services: next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., Chapel annex

Muslim Services (882-2111)

Jum'ah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

Qur'an: Saturday, 6 p.m.

At the movies



Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field (884-7648)

Friday – (R) "American Pie 2," starring Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan – The summer after their first year of college, the boys rent a beach house and vow to make this the best summer ever. As it turns out, they discover that times change and people change, but in the end it's all about sticking together.

Saturday – (G) "The Princess Diaries," starring Julie Andrews and Anne Hathaway – Teenager Mia Thermopolis is thrown for a loop when she learns the astonishing news that she's a real life princess. She must make the biggest decision of her life, whether to remain with her family or leave everything behind to accept the royal responsibilities that comes with being the Princess of Genovia.

Sunday – (PG-13) "American Outlaws," starring Colin Farrell and Nathaniel Arcand – As Confederate soldiers in The Civil War, the James boys and their cousins the Youngers, became expert killers that were able to live off the land for long periods of time and practiced in attacking their enemies' supply lines. The gang would later use the skills they gained from the war against railroads and banks.

Eglin (882-1066)

Friday and Sunday – (PG-13) "Rush Hour 2," starring Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker – Hong Kong Inspector Lee and Los Angeles Police Department detective Carter arrive in Hong Kong for a vacation. No sooner do they arrive, they're confronted with the biggest case of their careers. A bomb has exploded in the American Embassy, killing two US Customs agents who'd been investigating a money smuggling ring.

Saturday – (PG-13) "Planet of the Apes," starring Mark Wahlberg and Tim Roth – In the year 2029 Astronaut Leo Davidson boards a space station for a routine reconnaissance mission. But an abrupt detour lands him on a planet where talking apes rule over the human race. The race is on to reach a sacred temple within the planet's Forbidden Zone to discover the shocking secrets of mankind's past and the key to its future.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled play dates.)

LIFESTYLE

Community

Eglin beach club

The Eglin Community Beach Center is now serving all-you-can-eat breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for \$5.50.

Air Commando reunion

The Air Commando Association is sponsoring a reunion weekend Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Base members are invited to attend. The schedule of events are as follows:

ACA fish fry at the Soundside Enlisted Hooch – Friday, 2 to 7 p.m.

Jungle Jim gathering at The Soundside Club – Friday, 5 to 9 p.m.

ACA hospitality room at the Radisson, dance band – Friday, 9:30 to 11:30 p.m.

ACA general membership meeting at the Radisson Beach Resort – Saturday, 9 to 10 a.m.

Hall of Fame Luncheon – Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ACA pre-banquet social hour – Saturday, 6 to 7 p.m.

ACA banquet, guest speaker is Maj. Gen. Richard Secord – Saturday, 7 to 10 p.m.

ACA hospitality room, dance band – Saturday, 10 p.m. until

Memorial service on the water at the Soundside complex – Sunday, noon to 1 p.m.

ACA barbeque at the Soundside E-Hooch – Sunday, 1 to 3 p.m.

Classes

Family child care

Provider orientation classes will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Oct. 16 through 18 and Oct. 23 through 25. For more information, call the Family Child Care office at 884-2968.

Oil painting

Learn introduction to oil painting techniques through an oil painting class from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 13, at the Skills Development Center. The cost is \$35.

University of Arkansas

The University of Arkansas at Hurlburt Field offers a Master of Science with a major in Operations Management. Registration for term two is available until Oct. 26. Students can obtain certification along with their master's, in the following areas: Business Management, Human Resource Management, Industrial Management, and Safety and Health Care Management. For more information, call Madeline Guarino at 884-3844 or visit the education center, building 90220, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m..

Sports

Women's football

The women's intramural flag football team is looking for more players and a coach. The team is open to spouses and family members 18 and older who're out of high school. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Norman Williams at 884-5879 or the fitness center at 884-6949.

SPORTS

Self-defense becomes active part of base



Photos by Staff Sgt. André Nicholson



by Staff Sgt.
André Nicholson
Public Affairs

Another effective means of self-defense known as Tai Chuan Do is becoming a well known martial arts form throughout Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base.

Thomas "T.C." Hoot, Operations Contracting Squadron at Eglin AFB, a 4th degree black belt, teaches the martial art class at the main fitness center here three times a week.

There are several different forms of martial arts and Hoot said he respects each of them but is confident in the teachings of Tai Chuan Do. During class, "50 percent is self-defense techniques," Hoot said. "They also learn different attack moves, and the ways to escape them."

He believes Tai Chuan Do provides a sense of power but an attitude on how to temper it, he said.

Students start out as a white belt and progress through the ranks to black belt. An 8th degree black belt is the highest level.

Classes are held each Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. For more information or to register for a class, call T.C. Hoot at 936-1495.

(top left) T.C. Hoot, Operations Contracting Squadron, Eglin AFB, dark uniform, demonstrates a scoop as a counter to a punch, with student Emile Joseph, 716th Maintenance Squadron, Eglin AFB.

(top right) Emile Joseph, brown belt, finishes demonstrating a front elbow smash on his partner Jeremy Vignolo, family member. (bottom left) Thomas Nichols, 15th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, practices throwing his sparring partner Ed Gedney, Air Force Special Operations Command. (bottom right) Jeremy Vignolo, white belt, may be smaller than his partner but shows the technique works, as he throws Bob Monroe, AFSOC.